

agreed to increase the membership of the Senate NATO Observer Group by two additional Senators. For the additional Democratic Senator, I ask that Senator ROSEN be added to participate in the Group.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN W. NESS

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH, Representative MIKE SIMPSON and Representative RUSS FULCHER, we congratulate Brian Ness on his retirement after 13 years of outstanding service as director of the Idaho Transportation Department, ITD.

In 2009, Brian Ness was appointed to serve as director of the Idaho Transportation Department, and he has been responsible for an annual budget of approximately \$800 million and leading 1,650 employees. We have greatly valued his input on advancing Idaho transportation priorities, including through the Federal appropriations process and other infrastructure-related proposals. He also testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Research and Technology in 2019 on "The Need for a National Surface Transportation Research Agenda."

Director Ness has devoted considerable time utilizing his experience as a transportation professional to help lead a number of related organizations. He has served on the boards of directors and in many other leadership roles for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, AASHTO; the Western Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, WASHTO; the Transportation Research Board, TRB; the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, ARTBA; and the Idaho Rural Partnership. His leadership roles include the Governor appointing Director Ness to chair the Idaho Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Testing and Deployment Committee. Additionally, in 2019, Director Ness became president of the ARTBA's Transportation Officials Division. He also served as president of WASHTO in 2015.

Throughout his career, he has earned many recognitions for his remarkable work and led teams that have received many honors. For example, since Director Ness joined the ITD, it has received nearly 170 national awards for its programs and projects, including the prestigious Francis B. Francois Award for Innovation. ITD has also won an extraordinary 17 AASHTO President's Transportation Awards. Director Ness also received the 2016 Navigator Award from the national organization, Route Fifty; was named Trine University's—formerly Tri-State University—2014 Alumni of the Year; AASHTO's President's Award for Administration in 2013; and was honored in 2012 as Leader of the Year by the

Treasure Valley Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar.

Before becoming director at ITD, Director Ness worked for 30 years at the Michigan Department of Transportation, holding a variety of positions in research, operations, aeronautics, construction, and project development. He earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Tri-State University and a master's degree in public administration from Western Michigan University, and he is a licensed professional engineer in Michigan and Idaho.

We understand the ITD's employee-driven innovation program started during Director Ness's leadership is credited with saving nearly \$35 million, creating 691 customer-service improvements, and saving 540,000 contractor and employee hours. Thank you, Brian, for your focus on ingenuity, efficiency, accountability, and results all these years at the helm of the ITD. Your work to empower employee-driven innovation and support emerging leaders will no doubt have lasting effects on government efficiency and countless individual careers. Thank you, especially, for your service to Idaho, the transportation department and its employees, and congratulations on your retirement.●

RECOGNIZING KELSEY'S ON MAIN

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize the small business, Kelsey's On Main of Jackson, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Like a good Southerner, Kelsey Sebastian is passionate about hospitality. After leaving her native Jackson, she pursued a degree in hospitality management and tourism from University of Kentucky. However, instead of taking her university expertise to the opportunities of the big city, Kelsey returned home to put her knowledge and skills to work. Thus in 2014, with the help of her family, Kelsey Sebastian opened Kelsey's On Main.

The idea for Kelsey's On Main was born out of several needs for the little town of Jackson. With only a small number of sit-in dining establishments in Jackson, local residents needed more restaurant options. Moreover, there was a need for revitalization in the heart of downtown Jackson, a heady mission that Kelsey and her family bravely took on. The Hogg building, now home to Kelsey's On Main, was 98 years old when she and her family began the renovation process in 2012. A former pharmacy and pool hall, this historic building located in the center of downtown needed a healthy dose of tender love and care. Renovating the establishment was by no means an easy task but the town of Jackson and its residents will tell you

that it was worth it. In 2014, the centennial anniversary of the Hogg building, Kelsey's On Main opened their doors.

Kelsey's desire to restore beauty to the dilapidated old Hogg building corresponded with her mission to provide great food and top quality service to her hometown. In keeping the original tin roof and leaving one of the old walls exposed in its brick, customers can see that this building is mature in age but well taken care of. To that end, Kelsey and her family keep old photos of downtown Jackson as well as photos of her friends and family throughout the historic building. Of course, her family is not just present in the photographs that hang on the wall; her parents often come by to pick up a shift or two to support their daughter. And as a tenant in her aunt's building, Kelsey's On Main is a true family affair.

Returning to Jackson to open her own business is not the only way Kelsey supports her community. She is an active member of the Jackson Women's Group and as a Jackson City Council member, Kelsey always volunteers her restaurant to host the monthly Jackson Chamber of Commerce lunch. Kelsey is also involved in the Breathitt County Honey Festival, a tradition that has been around for over four decades, by supporting the festival's musical committee. As someone so involved in the goings-on of her town, Kelsey does her best to bring life to the Jackson community, as illustrated by she and her family's decision to revitalize a historic downtown building. Moreover, as a recent participant in Kentucky's BRIGHT program, a professional and entrepreneurial development program, it is clear that Kelsey is headstrong in her desire to keep improving and impacting the community around her.

All across the country are little towns like Jackson whose downtowns have been left empty by a shift in industry, and it is businesses like Kelsey's On Main that bring life back into those empty storefronts and keep historic communities thriving.

Congratulations to Kelsey and her family and the entire team at Kelsey's On Main. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:11 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 233. An act to designate the Rocksprings Station of the U.S. Border Patrol located on West Main Street in Rocksprings, Texas, as the "Donna M. Doss Border Patrol Station".

S. 1226. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 1501 North 6th Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Sylvia H. Rambo United States Courthouse", and for other purposes.

S. 2126. An act to designate the Federal Office Building located at 308 W. 21st Street in